

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for connecting a drainage bag to a fistula of a subject, including a connector in the form of an elongate flexible tubular member having an inlet aperture at a proximal end for receiving waste material from the fistula and an outlet aperture at a distal end for engagement with the drainage bag through which waste material travels before entering the drainage bag, and means for applying a force to the distal end of the connector for pressing the proximal end of the connector into contact with the exterior surface of the subject whereby to connect it to the fistula.

21. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the means for applying a force to the distal end of the connector is a belt or abdominal strap.

22. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the flexible tubular member is resiliently deformable in a longitudinal direction.

23. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein at least a portion of the flexible tubular member is ribbed.

24. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the

apparatus further includes an inlet flange around the inlet aperture.

25. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the inlet flange is resiliently deformable.

26. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the apparatus further includes an outlet flange around the outlet aperture.

27. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the outlet flange is provided with an adhesive layer on at least a portion thereof for adhesive engagement with a drainage bag.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the flexible tubular member is variable in length.

32. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the length of the flexible tubular member may be varied by up to 4 cm in length.

33. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the apparatus further includes a retention member as an integral part of the connector to prevent movement of an intestine of the subject through the connector into the drainage bag.

34. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the connector is formed, at least in part, of a flexible plastics or rubber or foam material.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the connector is formed, at least in part, of a hypo-allergenic material.

35. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the connector is formed, at least in part, of foam.

36. (Previously Presented) A drainage appliance comprising apparatus according to claim 20 interconnected with a drainage bag.

37. (Previously Presented) A method of connecting a drainage bag to a fistula of a subject, using a connector in the form of an elongate flexible tubular member having an inlet aperture at a proximal end for receiving waste material from the fistula and an outlet aperture at a distal end for engagement with the drainage bag through which waste material travels before entering the drainage bag, and means for applying a force to the connector for pressing the proximal end of the connector into contact with the exterior surface of the subject whereby to connect it to the fistula, comprising the steps of placing the inlet aperture of the connector against the fistula and applying the said force to the proximal end of the connector.